

Norfolke. Thanks my good Lord Chamberlaine.
Exit Lord Chamberlaine, and the King drives the Curraine
and sits reading pensively.

Suff. How sad he looks; sure he is much afflicted.

Kin. Who's there? Ha?

Norff. Pray God he be not angry. (sees)

Kin. Who's there I say? How dare you thrust your
Into my private Meditations?
Who am I? Ha?

Norff. A gracious King, that pardons all offences
Malice ne're meant: Our breach of Duty this way,
Is businesse of Estate; in which, we come
To know your Royall pleasure.

Kin. Ye are too bold:

Go too; Ile make ye know your times of businesse:
Is this an howre for temporall affaires? Ha?

Enter Wolsey and Campeius with a Commission.

Who's there? my good Lord Cardinall? O my Wolsey,
The quiet of my wounded Conscience;
Thou art a cure fit for a King; you'r welcome
Most learned Reuerend Sir, into our Kingdome,
Vse vs, and it: My good Lord, haue great care,
I be not found a Talker.

Wol. Sir, you cannot;
I would your Grace would giue vs but an howre
Of priuate conference.

Kin. We are busie; goe.

Norff. This Priest ha's no pride in him?

Suff. Not to speake of:

I would not be so sicke though for his place:
But this cannot continue.

Norff. If it doe, Ile venture one; haue at him.

Suff. I another.

Exeunt Norfolk and Suffolk.

Wol. Your Grace ha's giuen a President of wisdom
About all Princes, in committing freely
Your scruple to the voyce of Christendome:
Who can be angry now? What Enuy reach you?
The Spaniard tide by blood and fauour to her,
Must now confesse, if they haue any goodnesse,
The Tryall, iust and Noble. All the Clerkes,
(I meane the learned ones in Christian Kingdomes)
Haue their free voyces. Rome (the Nurse of Iudgement)
Inuited by your Noble selfe, hath sent
One generall Tongue vnto vs. This good man,
This iust and learned Priest, Cardinall Campeius,
Whom once more, I present vnto your Highnesse.

Kin. And once more in mine armes I bid him welcome,
And thanke the holy Conclau for their loues,
They haue sent me such a Man, I would haue wish'd for.

Cam. Your Grace must needs deserue all strangers loues,
You are so Noble: To your Highnesse hand
I tender my Commission; by whose vertue,
The Court of Rome commanding. You my Lord
Cardinall of Yorke, are ioyn'd with me their Seruant,
In the vnpartial iudging of this Businesse. (sees)

Kin. Two equall men: The Queene shall be acquaint
Forthwith for what you come. Where's Gardiner?

Wol. I know your Maiesty, ha's alwayes lou'd her
So deare in heart, not to deny her char:
A Woman of lesse Place might aske by Law;
Schollers allow'd freely to argue for her.

Kin. I, and the best she shall haue; and my fauour
To him that does best; God forbid els: Cardinall,
Prethee call Gardiner to me, my new Secretary.
I find him a fit fellow.

Enter Gardiner.

Wol. Giue me your hand: much ioy & fauour to you,
You are the Kings now.

Gard. But to be commanded

For euer by your Grace, whose hand ha's rais'd me.

Kin. Come hither Gardiner.

Walkes and whispers.

Cam. My Lord of Yorke, was not one Doctor Page
In this mans place before him?

Wol. Yes, he was.

Cam. Was he not held a learned man?

Wol. Yes surely.

Cam. Beleue me, there's an ill opinion spread then,
Euen of your selfe Lord Cardinall.

Wol. How? of me?

Cam. They will not sticke to say, you enuide him;
And fearing he would rise (he was so vertuous)
Kept him a forraigne man still, which so greued him,
That he ran mad, and dide.

Wol. Heau'ns peace be with him;

That's Christian care enough: for liuing Murmurers,
There's places of rebuke. He was a Foole;

For he would needs be vertuous. That good Fellow,
If I command him followes my appointment,

I will haue none so neere els. Learne this Brother,
We liue not to be grip'd by meaner persons.

Kin. Deliu'r this with modesty to th' Queene.

Exit Gardiner.

The most conuenient place, that I can thinke of
For such receipt of Learning, is Black-Fryers:
There ye shall meete about this waighy busines.
My Wolsey, see it furnish'd, O my Lord,
Would it not grieue an able man to leaue
So sweet a Bedfellow? But Conscience, Conscience;
O 'tis a tender place, and I must leaue her. Exeunt.

Scena Tertia.

Enter Anne Bullen, and an old Lady.

An. Not for that neither; here's the pang that pinches.
His Highnesse, hauing liu'd so long with her, and she
So good a Lady, that no Tongue could euer
Pronounce dishonour of her; by my life,
She neuer knew harme-doing: Oh, now after
So many courses of the Sun enthroned,
Still growing in a Maiesty and pompe, the which
To leaue, a thousand fold more bitter, then
'Tis sweet at first to acquire. After this Proceffe,
To giue her the auant, it is a pittie
Would moue a Monster.

Old La. Hearts of most hard temper
Melt and lament for her.

An. Oh Gods will, much better
She ne're had knowne pompe; though't be temporall,
Yet if that quarrell. Fortune, do diuorce
It from the bearer, 'tis a sufferance, panging
As foule and bodies seuering.

Old La. Alas poore Lady,
Shee's a stranger now againe.

An. So much the more
Must pity drop vpon her; verily
I sweare, 'tis better to be lowly borne,

And

And range with humble liuers in Content,
Then to be perk'd vp in a glistering griefe,
And weare a golden sorrow.

Old La. Our content

Is our best hauing.

An. By my troth, and Maidenhead,
I would not be a Queene.

Old La. Beshrew me, I would,
And venture Maidenhead for't, and so would you

For all this spice of your Hypocrisie:

You that haue so faire parts of Woman on you,
Haue (too) a Womans heart, which euer yet

Affected Enuience, Wealth, Soueraignty;

Which, to say sooth, are Blessings; and which giu'st

(Suing your mincing) the capacity

Of your lost Chiuereil Conscience, would receiue,

If you might please to stretch it.

An. Nay, good troth.

Old La. Yes troth, & troth, you would not be a Queene?

An. No, not for all the riches vnder Heaven.

Old La. 'Tis strange; a threepence bow'd would hire me

Old La. I am, to Queene it: but I pray you,

What thinke you of a Dutchesse? Haue you limbs

To beare that load of Title?

An. No in truth.

Old La. Then you are weakly made; plucke off a little,

I would not be a young Count in your way,

For more then blushing comes to: If your backe

Caunt vouchsafe this burthen, 'tis too weake

Euer to get a Boy.

An. How you doe talke;

I sweare againe, I would not be a Queene,

For all the world:

Old La. In faith, for little England

You'd venture an enballing: I my selfe

Would for Carnaruanshire, although there long'd

No more to th' Crowne but that: Lo, who comes here?

Enter Lord Chamberlaine. (know

L. Cham. Good morrow Ladies; what wer't worth to
The secret of your conference?

An. My good Lord,

Not your demand; it values not your asking:

Our Mistis Sorrowes we were pittying.

Cham. It was a gentle businesse, and becoming

The action of good women, there is hope

All will be well.

An. Now I pray God, Amen.

Cham. You beare a gentle minde, & heau'nly blessings

Follow such Creatures. That you may, faire Lady

Perceiue I speake sincerely, and high notes

Tane of your many vertues; the Kings Maiesty

Commends his good opinion of you, to you; and

Doe's purpose honour to you no lesse flowing,

Then Marchionesse of Pembroke; to which Title,

A Thousand pound a yeare, Annuall support,

Out of his Grace, he addes.

An. I doe not know

What kinde of my obedience, I should tender;

More then my All, is Nothing: Nor my Prayers

Are not words duly hallowed; nor my Wishes

More worth, then empty vanities: yet Prayers & Wishes

Are all I can returne. Beseech your Lordship,

Vouchsafe to speake my thanks, and my obedience,

As from a blushing Handmaid, to his Highnesse;

Whose health and Royalty I pray for.

Cham. Lady;

I shall not faile to approue the faire conceit
The King hath of you. I haue perus'd her well,
Beauty and Honour in her are fomingled,

That they haue caught the King: and who knowes yet

But from this Lady, may proceed a lemme,

To lighten all this Ile. Ile to the King,

And say I spoke with you.

Exit Lord Chamberlaine.

An. My honour'd Lord.

Old La. Why this it is: See, see,

I haue beene begging sixteene yeares in Court

(Am yet a Courtier beggerly) nor could

Come pat betwix too early, and too late

For any suit of pounds: and you, (oh fate)

A very fresh Fish heere; syc, syc, syc vpon

This compell'd fortune: haue your mouth fill'd vp,

Before you open it.

An. This is strange to me.

Old La. How taste it? Is it bitter? Forty pence, no:

There was a Lady once (tis an old Story)

That would not be a Queene, that would she not

For all the mud in Egypt; haue you heard it?

An. Come you are pleasant.

Old La. With your Theame, I could

O're-mount the Larke: The Marchionesse of Pembroke?

A thousand pounds a yeare, for pure respect?

No other obligation? by my Life,

That promises mo thousands: Honours traine

Is longer then his fore-skirt; by this time

I know your backe will beare a Dutchesse. Say,

Are you not stronger then you were?

An. Good Lady,

Make your selfe mirth with your particular fancy,

And leaue me out on't. Would I had no being

If this salute my blood a iot; it faints me

To thinke what followes.

The Queene is comfortlesse, and wee forgetfull

In our long absence: pray doe not deliuer,

What heere y'haue heard to her.

Old La. What doe you thinke me ——— Exeunt.

Scena Quarta.

Trumpets, Sennet, and Cornets.

Enter two Vergers, with short silver wands; next them two

Scribes in the habue of Doctors; after them, the Bishop of

Canterbury alone; after him, the Bishops of Lincolne, Ely,

Rochester, and S. Asaph: Next them, with some small

distance, follows a Gentleman bearing the Purse, with the

great Seale, and a Cardinals Hat: Then two Priests, bea-

ring each a Silver Crosse: Then a Gentleman vnder bare-

headed, accompanied with a Sergeant at Armes, bearing a

Silver Mace: Then two Gentlemen bearing two great

Silver Pillers: After them, side by side, the two Cardinals,

two Noblemen, with the Sword and Mace. The King takes

place vnder the Cloth of State. The two Cardinals sit

vnder him as Iudges. The Queene takes place some di-

stance from the King. The Bishops place themselves on

each side the Court in manner of a Consistory: Below them

the Scribes. The Lords sit next the Bishops. The rest of the

Attendants stand in conuenient order about the Stage.

Card.